



State Senator

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# VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22<sup>nd</sup> District

Shiawassee-Livingston-southern Ingham counties

## A Glimpse of Current Legislation & Critical Issues CHILD SUPPORT

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Are you having problems collecting child support or would you like to report an individual for being neglectful in their child support payments?

Please visit  
[www.paykids.com](http://www.paykids.com).

This site is sponsored by Michigan Attorney Generals' office and has already helped put numerous offenders behind bars.

### Protecting our Kids:

#### *Program Designed to Create Amnesty for Child Support Arrearages*

A package of bills was recently passed by Michigan's Legislature that will provide parents dealing with the child support system an opportunity to pay-off arrearages that they may have accumulated without penalty. During a specified time period, parents facing criminal prosecution or civil penalties related to failure of refusal to pay child support will be waived if the individual satisfies their entire arrearage during the designated amnesty period.

One of the bills in the package, House Bill 4654, amends the Office of Child Support Act by requiring the Family Independence Agency Director to designate a child support arrearage amnesty period. The new program is a one-time opportunity for delinquent payers to resolve any child support arrearage balances they may have.

To qualify for amnesty, the payer may furnish the amount owed in full and request that amnesty be granted in writing. The payer may also pay at least 50 percent of what is owed and submit a written request for amnesty and then pay the remaining balance before the amnesty period ends. Individuals will not be eligible for the program if prosecution procedures have been initiated or they have been arrested on a criminal warrant or bench warrant related to their failure to pay past due child support.

The Office of Child Support will be required to notify those individuals who qualify for amnesty of the programs availability.

